

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-withdraws-information-request-oil-and-gas-industry"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-withdraws-information-request-oil-and-gas-industry)]

Release Date: 03/02/2017

EPA is withdrawing its request that owners and operators in the oil and natural gas industry provide information on equipment and emissions at existing oil and gas operations.

Statement

This Administration's action will reduce burdens on businesses while we take a closer look at the need for additional information from this industry. Under the previous administration, EPA sent letters to more than 15,000 owners and operators in the oil and gas industry, requiring them to provide information on greenhouse gases.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reexamine-emission-standards-cars-and-light-duty-trucks-model-years-2022-2025"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reexamine-emission-standards-cars-and-light-duty-trucks-model-years-2022-2025)]

Release Date: 03/15/2017

DOT Secretary Elaine Chao and Administrator Scott Pruitt will revisit the previous administration's rule that finalized standards to increase fuel economy to the equivalent of 54.5 mpg for cars and light-duty trucks by Model Year 2025.

Statement

These standards are costly for automakers and the American people. The Department of Transportation announced that it would re-open the Mid-Term evaluation process and work with the EPA to complete the review in a transparent, data-driven manner. This thorough review will help ensure that this national program is good for consumers and good for the environment.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-previews-president-trumps-executive-order-energy-independence"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-previews-president-trumps-executive-order-energy-independence)]

Release Date: 03/26/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt previewed the upcoming executive order on the American Energy Independence. He laid out the core message of the pending action, saying job growth and a healthy environment aren't at odds.

Statement

The President's Energy Independence Executive Order supports the need for pro-growth, pro-environment approach to our nation's environmental regulations. The Executive Order will address the past administration's effort to kill jobs throughout the country through the Clean Power Plan.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-denies-petition-ban-widely-used-pesticide-0"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-denies-petition-ban-widely-used-pesticide-0)]

Release Date: 03/29/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt signed an order denying a petition that sought to ban chlorpyrifos, a pesticide crucial to U.S. agriculture.

Statement

EPA is providing regulatory certainty to the thousands of American farms that rely on chlorpyrifos while still protecting human health and the environment. By reversing the previous Administration's steps to ban one of the most widely used pesticides in the world, we are returning to using sound science in decision-making.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-sends-clean-power-plan-guidance-letter-governors-0"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-sends-clean-power-plan-guidance-letter-governors-0)]

Release Date: 03/30/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt sent letters to state governors advising them that they are under no obligation to adhere to the Clean Power Plan (CPP) rule.

Statement

This administration has fulfilled its promise of cooperative federalism and acted on the President's Energy Independence Executive order by advising state governors that they are under no obligation to adhere to the Clean Power Plan rule. EPA looks forward to working with states and local communities to develop a path forward to improve our environment and bolster the economy in a manner that is respectful of and consistent with the rule of law.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/regulatory-reform-underway-epa"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/regulatory-reform-underway-epa)]

Release Date: 04/11/2017

EPA's Regulatory Reform Task Force, led by the Office of Policy, submitted a Federal Register notice today to solicit public comments on EPA regulations.

Statement

In a vital step toward implementing the President's Executive Order, "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda," EPA's Regulatory Reform Task Force solicited public comments on EPA regulations. The administration is committed to working with the public and EPA program offices to gather their recommendations for specific rules that should be considered for repeal, replacement or modification.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-statement-omb-guidance-reorganizing-government"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-statement-omb-guidance-reorganizing-government)]

Release Date: 04/13/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt supports the Office of Management and Budget's guidance on implementing President Trump's plans for reorganizing the federal government and reducing the government workforce.

Statement

In support of President Trump's plans for reorganizing the federal government and reducing the government workforce, the administration will work with EPA staff to effectively use every taxpayer dollar entrusted to the agency. EPA will return to its core statutory mission, and focusing on greater value and results, and partner with states and tribes to ensure a thoughtful approach is used to maximize resources to protect our air, land, and water.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-oil-and-gas-rule"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-oil-and-gas-rule)]

Release Date: 04/19/2017

EPA announced the agency's intent to grant a reconsideration of the Oil and Gas New Source Performance Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources Rule (NSPS Rule/Methane NSPS/Oil and Gas Rule/0000a).

Statement

In continued support of the President's Energy Independence Executive Order, EPA reconsidered the Oil and Gas New Source Performance Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources Final Rule. EPA believes American businesses should have the opportunity to review new requirements, assess economic impacts and report back, before those new requirements are finalized.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-kicks-website-updates"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-kicks-website-updates)]

Release Date: 04/28/2017

EPA.gov, the website for the United States Environmental Protection Agency, is undergoing changes that reflect the agency's new direction under President Donald Trump and Administrator Scott Pruitt.

Statement

Updating and improving EPA's website reflects the agency's new direction under the leadership of President Donald Trump and Administrator Scott Pruitt. With a commitment to transparency, the changes ensure the website's usefulness to the public in understanding the agency's work while complying with agency ethics and legal guidance, including the use of proper archiving procedures.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-extends-timeline-pesticide-applicators-rule"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-extends-timeline-pesticide-applicators-rule)]

Release Date: 05/11/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt announced a 12-month extension for implementation of the revised final Certification and Training of Pesticide Applicators (C&T) rule.

Statement

To achieve both environmental protection and economic prosperity, EPA must give the regulated community, which includes farmers and ranchers, adequate time to comply with regulations. Extending the timeline for implementation of this rule will enable EPA to consult with states, assist with education, training and guidance, and prevent unnecessary burdens from overshadowing the rule's intended benefits.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/bill-signed-president-trump-gives-epas-wifia-program-additional-help-meet-communities"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/bill-signed-president-trump-gives-epas-wifia-program-additional-help-meet-communities)]

Release Date: 05/17/2017

EPA's Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program received an additional \$8 million for credit subsidy in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017, signed into law by President Donald Trump on May 5, 2017.

Statement

EPA received 43 letters of interest for WIFIA loans from public and private entities with a collective request of \$6 billion, demonstrating the high need to invest in water infrastructure improvements in communities across the nation and the value that WIFIA financing can offer. Thanks to President Trump and Congress, this additional funding will accelerate the construction of projects to meet communities' water infrastructure needs.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-budget-returns-focus-core-statutory-mission"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-budget-returns-focus-core-statutory-mission)]

Release Date: 05/23/2017

The proposed Fiscal Year 2018 budget for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, announced today, provides \$5.655 billion to help the agency protect human health and the environment.

Statement

This budget supports EPA's highest priorities with federal funding for priority work in infrastructure, air and water quality, and ensuring the safety of chemicals in the marketplace. It respects the American taxpayer by aiming to reduce redundancies and inefficiencies and prioritize EPA's core statutory mission of providing Americans with clean air, land, and water.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-stays-landfill-methane-rules"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-stays-landfill-methane-rules)]

Release Date: 05/23/2017

EPA announced a 90-day administrative stay for the August 2016 New Source Performance Standards and Emissions guidelines for municipal solid waste landfills.

Statement

The administration estimates that implementing these rules would cost businesses more than \$100 million per year to install and operate gas collection and control systems. Reconsidering portions of the landfill rules will give stakeholders the opportunity to review these requirements, assess economic impacts and provide feedback to the agency through the reconsideration process.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-extend-deadline-2015-ozone-naaqs-area-designations"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-extend-deadline-2015-ozone-naaqs-area-designations)]

Release Date: 06/06/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt sent a letter to governors today to inform them of EPA's efforts related to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone promulgated in October 2015.

Statement

This administration understands areas designated as being in "nonattainment" of the standard face consequences, including: increased regulatory burdens, restrictions on infrastructure investment, and increased costs to businesses. Because states have made tremendous progress and significant investment cleaning up the air, EPA is giving states more time to develop air quality plans and will provide greater flexibility to states as they develop their plans.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-extends-rmp-effective-date-2019"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-extends-rmp-effective-date-2019)]

Release Date: 06/12/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt signed a final rule to further delay the effective date of EPA's Risk Management Program (RMP) Amendments an additional 20 months to allow the agency to conduct a reconsideration proceeding and to consider other issues that may benefit from additional comment.

Statement

This action allows EPA time to evaluate the RMP amendments and to thoughtfully consider questions and concerns submitted through multiple petitions and other comments received during the public comment period and public hearing.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/united-states-resets-climate-change-discussion-g7"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/united-states-resets-climate-change-discussion-g7)]

Release Date: 06/12/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt announced that the United States stands firm on its decision to withdraw from the Paris Agreement and has reset the conversation about climate change reflective of the new priorities of the Trump Administration and the expectations of the American people.

Statement

This action of reaching consensus on important environmental issues makes clear that the Paris Agreement is not the only mechanism by which environmental stewardship can be demonstrated. It also demonstrates EPA's commitment to honest conversations, which are the cornerstone of constructive international dialogue

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-longer-stay-portions-oil-and-gas-standards"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-longer-stay-portions-oil-and-gas-standards)]

Release Date: 06/13/2017

EPA is taking steps to ensure portions of the agency's 2016 New Source Performance Standards for the oil and natural gas industry do not take effect while the agency works through the reconsideration process.

Statement

In consideration of several petitions the agency has received to reconsider certain aspects of this potentially burdensome rule, EPA will take additional time to review these concerns which impact one of our nation's most important industries.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-marks-chemical-safety-milestone-1st-anniversary-lautenberg-chemical-safety-act"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-marks-chemical-safety-milestone-1st-anniversary-lautenberg-chemical-safety-act)]

Release Date: 06/22/2017

Today, on the one-year anniversary of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, Administrator Scott Pruitt announced that EPA has met its first-year statutory responsibilities under the law.

Statement

This administration is committed to providing regulatory certainty to American businesses, while protecting human health and the environment. The new process for evaluating existing chemicals outlined in these rules will increase public confidence in chemical safety without stifling innovation.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-us-army-move-rescind-2015-waters-us"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-us-army-move-rescind-2015-waters-us)]

Release Date: 06/27/2017

The Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Army, and Army Corps of Engineers (the agencies) are proposing a rule to rescind the Clean Water Rule and re-codify the regulatory text that existed prior to 2015 defining "waters of the United States" or WOTUS.

Statement

The administration is taking significant action to return power to the states and provide regulatory certainty to our nation's farmers and businesses. EPA is committed to moving through this re-evaluation to quickly provide regulatory certainty in a way that is thoughtful, transparent and collaborative with other agencies and the public

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-rfs-volumes-reflective-market-realities-2018"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-rfs-volumes-reflective-market-realities-2018)]

Release Date: 07/05/2017

EPA signed a proposed rule setting the minimum amount of renewable fuels that must be supplied to the market in calendar year 2018 under the Renewable Fuel Standards (RFS) program.

Statement

EPA is committed to successfully administering the RFS consistent with the direction entrusted to the Agency by Congress. The proposed new volumes are consistent with market realities focused on actual production and consumer demand while acknowledging challenges in bringing advanced biofuels into the marketplace. Timely implementation will provide certainty to American refiners, the agriculture community and broader fuels industry.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-superfund-task-force-recommendations"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-superfund-task-force-recommendations)]

Release Date: 07/25/2017

EPA's Superfund Task Force released their report to EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, providing 42 specific and detailed recommendations to streamline and improve the Superfund program.

Statement

This task force is a team effort between career and political EPA staff, working together to develop recommendations that are detailed, but also workable. This process ensures we can expedite the protection of human health and the environment around these properties and accelerate reuse while carrying out one of the agency's core missions.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/new-epa-tool-helps-communities-access-more-10-billion-water-infrastructure-financing"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/new-epa-tool-helps-communities-access-more-10-billion-water-infrastructure-financing)]

Release Date: 07/26/2017

EPA is launching the Water Finance Clearinghouse, a web-based portal to help communities make informed financing decisions for their drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure needs.

Statement

Investing in water infrastructure sustains local economies by creating jobs, protecting public health, and increasing quality of life. EPA's Clearinghouse serves as a vital portal that helps connect the many communities struggling with aging or inadequate water infrastructure with the information and tools they need to finance much-needed improvement projects.

[HYPERLINK "<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/federal-partnership-launches-water-quality-challenge-piloting-low-cost-nutrient-sensors>"]

Release Date: 07/26/2017

Today, a federal partnership launched a technology-accelerating water quality challenge to demonstrate how nutrient sensors can be used by states and local communities to help manage nutrient pollution.

Statement

This partnership demonstrates the power of innovation in developing affordable, high-performing solutions to one of the nation's most extensive water quality issues. By finding ways to address algal blooms, EPA can help industries, sectors and communities that depend on clean water while saving federal, state, and local governments billions of dollars every year in combating nutrient pollution.

[HYPERLINK "<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-adds-superfund-sites-national-priorities-list-clean-contamination>"]

Release Date: 07/31/2017

EPA is adding seven and proposing to add four hazardous waste sites to the Superfund program's National Priorities List (NPL).

Statement

This administration aims to restore the Superfund program to its rightful place at the center of the agency's core mission. By adding sites to the Superfund National Priorities List we ensure they are cleaned up to make these communities healthier places to live, and clear the way for development and increased economic activity.

[HYPERLINK "<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/air-quality-continues-improve-while-us-economy-continues-grow>"]

Release Date: 08/02/2017

EPA released its annual report on air quality, showing the significant progress the United States has made to improve air quality across the country.

Statement

EPA is proud to highlight nearly 75 percent reduction in six key pollutants since 1970, during a period in which the U.S. economy grew more than three times. EPA remains committed to working with states, tribes, and local air agencies to help more areas of the country come into compliance so all Americans receive the benefits of clean air.

[HYPERLINK "<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-continues-work-states-2015-ozone-designations>"]

Release Date: 08/02/2017

EPA is moving forward with 2015 ozone designations, working with states to help areas with underlying technical issues, disputed designations, and/or insufficient information.

Statement

The Clean Air Act gives EPA the flexibility to allow one additional year for sufficient information to support ozone designations. This action reinforces our commitment to working with the states through the complex designation process.

[HYPERLINK "<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-eliminates-new-chemical-backlog-announces-improvements-new-chemical-safety-reviews>"]

Release Date: 08/07/2017

Following through with Administrator Pruitt's commitment to eliminating the backlog of new chemical cases that were stuck in EPA's review processes upon his confirmation, he is reporting that the backlog is eliminated.

Statement

When Administrator Pruitt was confirmed, over 600 new chemicals were 'stuck' in the EPA review process. The current caseload is back at the baseline and now in line with the typical active workload. With the ongoing commitment of the staff working on TSCA reviews, and input from stakeholders, EPA will ensure a new chemicals program that is both protective of human health and the environment, while also being supportive of bringing new chemicals to market.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-issues-guidance-state-coal-ash-management-permit-programs"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-issues-guidance-state-coal-ash-management-permit-programs)]

Release Date: 08/10/2017

EPA released an interim final guidance to help states develop and submit permit programs for the safe management of coal combustion residuals (CCR), commonly known as coal ash, to EPA for review and approval.

Statement

As part of EPA's ongoing commitment to cooperative federalism, the agency encourages States to consult this interim final guidance as they develop and submit programs to EPA for review and approval. EPA will continue to consult with our state partners to find the best management strategy for the safe disposal of coal ash in each of their states.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/updates-epas-ejscreen-provide-access-important-new-data"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/updates-epas-ejscreen-provide-access-important-new-data)]

Release Date: 08/16/2017

EPA today launched its annual update of EJSscreen, the Agency's nationally acclaimed environmental justice screening and mapping tool.

Statement

EJSscreen is one of the agency's most popular tools, regularly used by other federal, Tribal, state and local government partners as well as by nonprofit and community groups, business and industry, and academia. It increases the agency's transparency about how we consider environmental justice, to assist our partners and stakeholders in making informed decisions, and to create a common starting point between EPA and others when looking at issues related to environmental justice.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-and-army-seek-input-review-waters-us-rule"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-and-army-seek-input-review-waters-us-rule)]

Release Date: 08/25/2017

EPA and U.S. Department of the Army (the agencies) will hold 11 sessions to give stakeholders an opportunity to provide recommendations on a revised definition of "waters of the United States."

Statement

EPA is committed to an open and transparent process for reviewing the definition of 'waters of the United States.' Receiving input from across the country will help us make informed decisions as we move through our two-step process that will return power to the states and to provide regulatory certainty to our nation's farmers and businesses

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-approves-emergency-fuel-waivers-38-states-and-washington-dc-1"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-approves-emergency-fuel-waivers-38-states-and-washington-dc-1)]

Release Date: 09/07/2017

As a result of the continuing impacts on Gulf Coast-area refineries and disruption to the fuel distribution system caused by Hurricane Harvey and the effects of large-scale evacuations in response to Hurricane Irma, Administrator Scott Pruitt today exercised EPA's emergency fuel waiver authority to help ensure an adequate supply of fuel.

Statement

Helping ensure an adequate supply of fuel throughout the country is vital to maintaining our nation's economy and services during emergency events. EPA, in coordination with the Department of Energy, will continue to offer this relief as appropriate.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-finalizes-rule-postpone-steam-electric-power-plant-effluent-guidelines-rule"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-finalizes-rule-postpone-steam-electric-power-plant-effluent-guidelines-rule)]

Release Date: 09/13/2017

EPA has finalized a rule postponing certain compliance dates by two years for the effluent limitations guidelines and standards for steam electric power plants (ELG Rule) that were issued in November 2015.

Statement

This action provides relief for power plants from regulatory deadlines while the agency reconsiders existing effluent guidelines. Giving facilities time to comply benefits industry and our economy.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-certain-coal-ash-rule-provisions"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-certain-coal-ash-rule-provisions)]

Release Date: 09/14/2017

EPA has granted two petitions to reconsider substantive provisions of the final rule regulating coal combustion residuals (CCR) as nonhazardous waste under subtitle D of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

Statement

EPA granted these petitions to consider improvements that may help states tailor their permit programs to their needs in a way that provides greater regulatory certainty, while also ensuring that human health and the environment remain protected. It was appropriate and in the public's interest to reconsider specific provisions of the final CCR rule based in part on the authority provided through the Water Infrastructure for Improvements to the Nation (WIIN) Act.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-launches-smart-sectors-program"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-launches-smart-sectors-program)]

Release Date: 10/03/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt announced the launch of Smart Sectors, a partnership program between the Agency and regulated sectors focused on achieving better environmental outcomes.

Statement

The Smart Sectors program is designed to effectively engage business partners throughout the regulatory process. When industries and regulators better understand each other, the economy, public, and the environment all benefit.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-takes-another-step-advance-president-trumps-america-first-strategy-proposes-repeal"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-takes-another-step-advance-president-trumps-america-first-strategy-proposes-repeal)]

Release Date: 10/10/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), proposing to repeal the so-called "Clean Power Plan (CPP)."

Statement

The Supreme Court issued a historic, unprecedented stay of the Clean Power Plan, prompted by the overreach of the previous administration. EPA is committed to clearing the regulatory slate. Any replacement rule will be done carefully, properly, and with humility, by listening to all those affected by the rule.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-addresses-national-tribal-operations-committee"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-addresses-national-tribal-operations-committee)]

Release Date: 10/11/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt addressed the National Tribal Operations Committee (NTOC) where he spoke on pressing issues facing environmental leaders in Indian country and how best to collaborate on shared goals and challenges.

Statement

EPA is committed to working and partnering with tribal governments to address our shared environmental concerns and challenges. Tribal government play an important role in environmental management, and through the unique government-to-government relationship that tribes have with the federal government, we engage in the process as co-regulators.

[HYPERLINK "<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-and-states-collective-efforts-lead-regulatory-action-dicamba>"]

Release Date: 10/13/2017

EPA has reached an agreement with Monsanto, BASF and DuPont on measures to further minimize the potential for drift to damage neighboring crops from the use of dicamba formulations used to control weeds in genetically modified cotton and soybeans.

Statement

EPA has worked intensely and collaboratively with the states and university scientists from across the nation who have first-hand knowledge of the problem and workable solutions to develop this action. Through this example of cooperative federalism, the new requirements for the use of dicamba will allow farmers to make informed choices for seed purchases for the 2018 growing season.

[HYPERLINK "<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-issues-directive-end-epa-sue-settle>"]

Release Date: 10/16/2017

In fulfilling his promise to end the practice of regulation through litigation that has harmed the American public, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt issued a directive today designed to end “sue and settle” practices within the Agency.

Statement

The days of regulation through litigation are over. This decision provides an unprecedented level of public participation and transparency in EPA consent decrees and settlement agreements. Special-interest groups will no longer be able to use lawsuits that seek to force EPA issue regulations that advance their interests and priorities, on their specified timeframe.

[HYPERLINK "<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-helps-communities-grow-local-food-economy-spur-revitalization>"]

Release Date: 10/19/2017

Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released a new toolkit to help communities interested in using local foods to support downtown and neighborhood revitalization.

Statement

By investing in local foods, communities can preserve farmlands and protect the environment while bringing new jobs and business opportunities to main street. This program allows local officials, community groups, businesses and citizens to explore the benefits of using farmers markets, community kitchens and other food-related enterprises to revitalize communities and develop action plans for pursuing those goals.

[HYPERLINK "<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-meets-superfund-stakeholders-texas>"]

Release Date: 10/20/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt met with stakeholders at the Harris County Office who are monitoring cleanup efforts at the San Jacinto Superfund site that is contaminated with highly toxic dioxin.

Statement

EPA is committed to helping dispose of these toxic materials in a cost-effective and efficient way to better ensure a healthy and safe environment for nearby residents. This decision will provide overall certainty by permanently addressing the contamination risks instead of capping the site.

[HYPERLINK "<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-energy-independence-report>"]

Release Date: 10/25/2017

Today, EPA released its final report on implementing President Trump's executive order to curb regulatory burdens in order to promote energy production and economic growth while protecting human health and the environment.

Statement

At EPA, being both pro-jobs and pro-environment means we are working to curb unnecessary and duplicative regulatory burdens that do not serve the American people while continuing to partner with states, tribes and stakeholders to protect our air, land, and water.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-guidance-reporting-air-emissions-hazardous-substances-animal-waste-farms"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-guidance-reporting-air-emissions-hazardous-substances-animal-waste-farms)]

Release Date: 10/26/2017

Today, EPA is releasing guidance to assist farmers in reporting air releases of hazardous substances from animal waste at farms.

Statement

Farmers are some of the most important contributors to our nation's economy, and EPA is working diligently to address undue regulatory burden on this vital sector. EPA's guidance is designed to help farmers comply with the current requirements while we continue to examine our options for reporting requirements for emissions from animal waste.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-enforcement-actions-help-protect-vulnerable-communities-across-country-lead-based-1"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-enforcement-actions-help-protect-vulnerable-communities-across-country-lead-based-1)]

Release Date: 10/27/2017

As part of Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, EPA today announced 127 federal enforcement actions completed over the last year to ensure entities like renovation contractors, landlords and property managers are in compliance with regulations that require them to protect communities and the public from exposures to lead.

Statement

EPA's work to enforce federal lead paint laws helps protect communities across the country and ensures those who break the law are held accountable for their illegal actions. These cases also help maintain a level playing field for companies that follow the rules and comply with the law.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-issues-directive-ensure-independence-geographic-diversity"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-issues-directive-ensure-independence-geographic-diversity)]

Release Date: 10/31/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt issued a new directive today to ensure that any advisors serving on an EPA Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) are independent and free from any real, apparent, or potential interference with their ability to objectively serve as a committee member.

Statement

This action ensures EPA advisory committee members will be financially independent from the Agency. It also will significantly increase geographic diversity and state, tribal, and local government participation on the committees and ensure whatever science comes out of EPA will not be political science.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-public-hearing-proposed-repeal-clean-power-plan"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-public-hearing-proposed-repeal-clean-power-plan)]

Release Date: 11/02/2017

EPA will hold a public hearing on the proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan in Charleston, WV on November 28-29, 2017.

Statement

EPA is committed to hearing from those most impacted by the Clean Power Plan and getting their comments on the proposed repeal. We look forward to hearing from all interested stakeholders.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-intention-nominate-members-three-important-federal-advisory-committees"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-intention-nominate-members-three-important-federal-advisory-committees)]

Release Date: 11/03/2017

Administrator Scott Pruitt announced his intention to appoint members who will serve on the Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC), the Clean Air Science Advisory Committee (CASAC) and the Science Advisory Board (SAB).

Statement

EPA is ensuring the best independent scientific advice is given by appointing highly-qualified experts and scientists to these important committees. In a fair, open, and transparent fashion, EPA reviewed hundreds of qualified applicants nominated for these committees. Members who will be appointed include experts throughout the environmental stakeholder community, including from NGOs, academia, industry, and state, tribal and local officials.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-working-states-and-tribes-makes-final-attainment-designations-2015-ozone-naaqs"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-working-states-and-tribes-makes-final-attainment-designations-2015-ozone-naaqs)]

Release Date: 11/06/2017

Consistent with the states' and tribes' recommendations, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is moving forward with designations for close to 90 percent of the country.

Statement

This action shows our commitment to working with our state and tribal partners on one of the most important areas of EPA's work – ensuring that more Americans are living and working in areas that meet national air quality standards. After EPA establishes or revises an air quality standard, the Agency will follow a process, dictated by the Clean Air Act, by which states recommend area designations to EPA. The Agency then evaluates their recommendations prior to making its final designations.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-advances-effort-keep-epa-within-regulatory-lane-proposed-repeal"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-advances-effort-keep-epa-within-regulatory-lane-proposed-repeal)]

Release Date: 11/09/2017

EPA proposes to undo the regulatory overreach of the prior administration by repealing application of the Medium- and Heavy-Duty Truck Phase II Greenhouse Gas Emission and Fuel Efficiency Standards for the glider industry.

Statement

EPA is taking comment on an interpretation of the Clean Air Act that recognizes the unique nature of a vehicle made up of both new and used component parts. The Agency is proposing that gliders should not be regulated as "new motor vehicles" or "new motor vehicle engines" under section 202(a)(1) of the Clean Air Act. This action does not affect nor propose to affect EPA's authority to address heavy-duty engine rebuilding practices under Clean Air Act section 202(a)(3)(D).

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-celebrates-recycling-progress-and-economic-contribution-20th-america-recycles-day"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-celebrates-recycling-progress-and-economic-contribution-20th-america-recycles-day)]

Release Date: 11/15/2017

Today, on the 20th America Recycles Day, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) celebrates the importance of recycling to our nation's economy.

Statement

We are encouraging all Americans to recycle more today, and every day. With a greater focus on recycling, the U.S. recycling rate has more than tripled over the last 30 years to the current rate of 34 percent. According to our most

recent data from 2007, recycling and reuse activities created 757,000 jobs, produced \$36.6 billion in wages and \$6.7 billion in tax revenues in the United States in that year.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-availability-12-million-environmental-justice-collaborative-problem"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-availability-12-million-environmental-justice-collaborative-problem)]

Release Date: 11/16/2017

EPA announced today the availability of \$1.2 million for Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (CPS) Cooperative Agreements.

Statement

EPA's Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreements help non-profit and tribal organizations to partner with stakeholders from across industry, government, and academia to develop and implement solutions that significantly address environmental and/or public health issues in America's low income and minority communities. By focusing this year's grant on rural areas, EPA can increase outreach to underserved communities.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-and-army-propose-amend-effective-date-2015-rule-defining-waters-united-states"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-and-army-propose-amend-effective-date-2015-rule-defining-waters-united-states)]

Release Date: 11/16/2017

EPA and U.S. Department of the Army (the agencies) are proposing to amend the effective date of the 2015 rule defining "waters of the United States."

Statement

This proposal shows our commitment to our state and tribal partners and to providing regulatory certainty to our nation's farmers, ranchers and businesses allowing us to minimize confusion as we continue to receive input from across the country on how we should revise the definition of the 'waters of the United States.' EPA and the Army are taking this action to provide certainty and consistency to the regulated community.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-assesses-sunken-leaking-marine-vessels"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-assesses-sunken-leaking-marine-vessels)]

Release Date: 11/20/2017

EPA is supporting Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the U.S. Coast Guard in marine vessel recovery work. Teams continue to locate, assess and retrieve sunken, damaged and derelict vessels around Puerto Rico and the USVI.

Statement

Hurricane response is one of the agency's most important missions. EPA remains focused on environmental impacts and potential threats to the health and safety of those in the affected areas from spills and hazardous substances that might be onboard the vessels.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-clearing-out-agencys-foia-backlog"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-clearing-out-agencys-foia-backlog)]

Release Date: 11/21/2017

EPA announced that the Agency is on track to significantly reduce the backlog of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests received prior to 2017.

Statement

EPA is committed to transparency and we are quickly responding to the challenge to clear the backlog of FOIAs. EPA's National FOIA Office and offices across the agency have been working hard to clear the backlog of FOIA requests that existed at the start of 2017.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/dc-circuit-court-grants-trump-epa-request-extend-deadline-farmers-report-emissions"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/dc-circuit-court-grants-trump-epa-request-extend-deadline-farmers-report-emissions)]

Release Date: 11/28/2017

On November 22, 2017, in response to a request from the Trump administration EPA, the DC Circuit Court of Appeals effectively extended the deadline for farmers to report air releases of hazardous substances from animal waste at livestock operations until January 22, 2018.

Statement

EPA is giving farmers and ranchers additional time in order to provide compliance assistance to farmers, update its guidance, and develop a more-streamlined reporting form. With the Court's decision, farmers are not required to report emissions from animal waste at these facilities until after the Court issues its mandate, expected no sooner than January 22, 2018.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-finalizes-rfs-volumes-2018-and-biomass-based-diesel-volumes-2019"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-finalizes-rfs-volumes-2018-and-biomass-based-diesel-volumes-2019)]

Release Date: 11/30/2017

EPA finalized a rule that establishes the required renewable fuel volumes under the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) program for 2018, and biomass-based diesel for 2019.

Statement

Maintaining the renewable fuel standard at current levels ensures stability in the marketplace and follows through with EPA's commitment to meet the statutory deadlines and upholding the rule of law. The Clean Air Act requires EPA to set the RFS volume requirements annually and to finalize the standards by November 30th for the following year. The final standards for 2018, and for biomass-based diesel for 2019, are only slightly changed from the proposed standards that EPA issued earlier this year.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-co-host-national-brownfields-training-conference-pittsburgh"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-co-host-national-brownfields-training-conference-pittsburgh)]

Release Date: 12/01/2017

EPA and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) are co-sponsoring the National Brownfields Training Conference in Pittsburgh Dec. 4-7 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center.

Statement

Cleaning up Brownfields sites and returning them to reuse is a priority of this Administration. We are providing an opportunity to support private and public investment in economic revitalization to help improve environmental outcomes across the country. Addressing the nation's brownfields - abandoned or underutilized properties stigmatized by past commercial or industrial uses - is an ongoing challenge for communities of every size.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-determines-risks-hardrock-mining-industry-minimal-and-no-need-additional-federal"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-determines-risks-hardrock-mining-industry-minimal-and-no-need-additional-federal)]

Release Date: 12/01/2017

EPA announced that the Agency will not issue final regulations for financial responsibility requirements for certain hardrock mining facilities.

Statement

After careful analysis of public comments, the statutory authority, and the record for this rulemaking, we are confident that modern industry practices, along with existing state and federal requirements address risks from operating hardrock mining facilities. EPA published proposed regulations under section 108(b) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA, or Superfund) on January 11, 2017, and the public comment period closed on July 11, 2017.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-launches-cross-agency-effort-address-pfas"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-launches-cross-agency-effort-address-pfas)]

Release Date: 12/04/2017

EPA is announcing a cross-agency effort to address per and polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). PFAS, which includes PFOA, PFOS and GenX, are a diverse group of compounds resistant to heat, water, and oil that are persistent in the environment and resist degradation.

Statement

EPA's efforts build on the work that the Agency has done to establish non-regulatory drinking water health advisories for PFOA and PFOS. The Agency's water and research offices will lead these efforts and they will bring together expertise from across the Agency including top scientists from EPA's air, chemicals, land, research, and water offices.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-additional-public-listening-sessions-proposed-repeal-clean-power-plan"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-additional-public-listening-sessions-proposed-repeal-clean-power-plan)]

Release Date: 12/06/2017

EPA will hold three additional public listening sessions on the proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan in San Francisco, Calif., Gillette, Wyo. and Kansas City, Mo.

Statement

Due to the overwhelming response to our West Virginia hearing, we are announcing additional opportunities for the public to voice their views to the Agency. Public listening sessions will be on EPA's proposed repeal of the Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units (commonly known as the Clean Power Plan).

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/president-trump-appoints-epa-administrator-scott-pruitt-chair-gulf-coast-ecosystem"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/president-trump-appoints-epa-administrator-scott-pruitt-chair-gulf-coast-ecosystem)]

Release Date: 12/06/2017

Today, President Donald Trump appointed U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt as the new chairperson of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council).

Statement

With Administrator Pruitt as chair, the council is poised to build on our foundation of collaboration among members over the past five years. Along with our restoration partners, the council is ready to advance our efforts to restore the Gulf ecosystem and economy from the worst environmental disaster in the nation's history.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-meets-members-national-environmental-justice-advisory-council"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-meets-members-national-environmental-justice-advisory-council)]

Release Date: 12/07/2017

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt met with members of the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) to discuss Fiscal Year 2018 priorities including guidelines for meaningful public participation and EPA's Superfund Task Force recommendations.

Statement

Environmental justice dialogues are critical to improving environmental and public health outcomes. Established in 1993, NEJAC provides advice and recommendations about broad, cross-cutting issues related to environmental justice to the EPA Administrator.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-making-strides-cleaning-nations-most-contaminated-sites"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-making-strides-cleaning-nations-most-contaminated-sites)]

Release Date: 01/02/2018

EPA is announcing significant improvement in 2017 – through the deletion of all or parts of seven Superfund sites from the National Priorities List (NPL). This is more than triple the number of sites removed from the list in 2016.

Statement

EPA has made it a priority to get these sites cleaned up faster and in the right way. By creating a streamlined task force and making major remedy decisions that hold potentially responsible parties accountable for clean up, the Superfund program is carrying out the Agency's mission of protecting human health and the environment more every day.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/3-m-funding-now-available-locally-focused-environmental-education-grants"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/3-m-funding-now-available-locally-focused-environmental-education-grants)]

Release Date: 01/08/2018

Up to \$3 million in funding for locally-focused environmental education grants will be available this week under the 2018 EE Local Grant Program. EPA will award three to four grants in each of EPA's ten Regions, for no less than \$50,000 and no more than \$100,000 each, for a total of 30-35 grants nationwide.

Statement

By recognizing these locally-based learning and awareness opportunities, the Environmental Protection Agency is taking both a local and national leadership role in promoting sound agricultural conservation practices, environmental disaster preparedness, adequate food waste management and other important environmental best-practices.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/usda-task-force-agriculture-and-rural-prosperity-release-recommendations-revitalize"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/usda-task-force-agriculture-and-rural-prosperity-release-recommendations-revitalize)]

Release Date: 01/09/2018

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity released its report to President Trump outlining recommendations to promote agriculture, economic development, job growth, infrastructure improvements, technological innovation, energy security and quality of life in rural America. As a member of the Task Force, the Environmental Protection Agency plays an important role in revitalizing rural America.

Statement

More than ever, American farmers and ranchers deserve regulatory certainty. These recommendations renew our commitment to empowering rural America and improving environmental outcomes across the country. EPA looks forward to building on these efforts to revitalize rural America.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-updates-national-priorities-list-clean-contamination-and-protect-communities"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-updates-national-priorities-list-clean-contamination-and-protect-communities)]

Release Date: 01/09/2018

EPA is adding four and proposing to add 10 hazardous waste sites to the Superfund program's National Priorities List (NPL).

Statement

This action ensures the necessary resources are available for effective and safe revitalization of some of the most contaminated sites across the country. Superfund clean-up continues to be a priority at EPA as we work intently to create a safer and healthier environment for all communities affected.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-schedules-three-listening-sessions-proposed-repeal-clean-power-plan"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-schedules-three-listening-sessions-proposed-repeal-clean-power-plan)]

Release Date: 01/11/2018

With the publication of an upcoming Federal Register notice, EPA will re-open the public comment period for the proposed repeal through April 26, 2018 and provide further details on the listening sessions.

Statement

In response to significant interest surrounding the proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan and the success of the West Virginia hearing, we will hold listening sessions across the country to ensure all stakeholders have an opportunity to provide input.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/fuel-economy-reaches-new-record-manufacturers-meet-greenhouse-gas-standards-epa-0"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/fuel-economy-reaches-new-record-manufacturers-meet-greenhouse-gas-standards-epa-0)]

Release Date: 01/11/2018

EPA issued two annual reports that provide information on fuel economy and greenhouse gas emissions from light duty vehicles in the United States. The reports show auto manufacturers continue to innovate and make progress increasing fuel economy and reducing pollution.

Statement

Thanks to innovation in our automotive sector, fuel economy in the US fleet continues to improve. This benefits American consumers as well as our environment.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-recognizes-electronics-industry-leaders-innovation-and-recycling-achievements"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-recognizes-electronics-industry-leaders-innovation-and-recycling-achievements)]

Release Date: 01/11/2018

EPA recognized leading electronics manufacturers, retailers, and brand owners for their significant contributions in designing products sustainably and diverting electronics from landfills by sending them to third-party certified recyclers as part of the Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) Electronics Challenge.

Statement

Innovative industry leaders finding new, sustainable methods to reduce electronic waste are paving the way for the future of manufacturing. Through their efforts, our 2017 SMM Electronics Challenge winners exemplify the ability to promote economic growth while protecting human health and the environment.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-superfund-redevelopment-focus-list"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-superfund-redevelopment-focus-list)]

Release Date: 01/17/2018

EPA released its initial list of Superfund National Priorities List (NPL) sites with the greatest expected redevelopment and commercial potential.

Statement

EPA is more than a collaborative partner to remediate the nation's most contaminated sites, we're also working to successfully integrate Superfund sites back into communities across the country. This redevelopment list incorporates Superfund sites ready to become catalysts for economic growth and revitalization.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/reducing-regulatory-burdens-epa-withdraws-once-always-policy-major-sources-under-clean"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/reducing-regulatory-burdens-epa-withdraws-once-always-policy-major-sources-under-clean)]

Release Date: 01/25/2018

EPA issued a guidance memorandum withdrawing the "once in always in" policy for the classification of major sources of hazardous air pollutants under section 112 of the Clean Air Act. With the new guidance, sources of hazardous air pollutants previously classified as "major sources" may be reclassified as "area" sources when the facility limits its potential to emit below major source thresholds.

Statement

This guidance is based on a plain language reading of the statute that is in line with EPA's guidance for other provisions of the Clean Air Act. It will reduce regulatory burden for industries and the states, while continuing to ensure stringent and effective controls on hazardous air pollutants.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-publishes-annual-toxics-release-inventory-report-and-analysis"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-publishes-annual-toxics-release-inventory-report-and-analysis)]

Release Date: 01/30/2018

EPA released its 2016 Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) National Analysis. The publicly available database shows that industrial facilities continue to reduce the releases of TRI chemicals through pollution reduction activities.

Statement

EPA's TRI is a model in the international regulatory community. The National Analysis increases the transparency of the TRI Program and promotes user engagement and exploration of the annual TRI data.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-and-army-finalize-waters-united-states-applicability-date"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-and-army-finalize-waters-united-states-applicability-date)]

Release Date: 01/31/2018

EPA and U.S. Department of the Army (Army) have finalized a rule adding an applicability date to the 2015 Clean Water Rule (the 2015 Rule). This rule provides clarity and certainty about which definition of "waters of the United States" is applicable nationwide in response to judicial actions that could result in confusion. The new applicability date will be two years after today's action is published in the Federal Register, during which time both agencies will continue the process of reconsidering the 2015 Rule.

Statement

EPA is taking action to reduce confusion and provide certainty to America's farmers and ranchers. The 2015 WOTUS rule developed by the Obama administration will not be applicable for the next two years, while we work through the process of providing long-term regulatory certainty across all 50 states about what waters are subject to federal regulation.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-scott-pruitt-signs-endangered-species-act-memorandum-state"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-scott-pruitt-signs-endangered-species-act-memorandum-state)]

Release Date: 01/31/2018

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt spoke at the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture Winter Policy Conference and signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) establishing an interagency Working Group to evaluate and improve the Endangered Species Act consultation process for pesticide registration.

Statement

The current Endangered Species Act pesticide consultation process is broken. The Trump Administration is taking action to improve and accelerate this process, harmonize interagency efforts, and create regulatory certainty for America's farmers and ranchers.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-invites-nations-leaders-join-epa-efforts-reduce-childhood-lead"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-invites-nations-leaders-join-epa-efforts-reduce-childhood-lead)]

Release Date: 02/05/2018

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt is taking action to address lead contamination across America by formally inviting his colleagues and fellow Cabinet members to join with EPA in developing a federal strategy to reduce childhood lead exposure and associated health effects.

Statement

Lead exposure is a significant health and safety threat to children across the country. EPA is committed to taking action to address this threat, and improve health outcomes for our nation's most vulnerable citizens – our children.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-2017-annual-environmental-enforcement-results"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-2017-annual-environmental-enforcement-results)]

Release Date: 02/08/2018

EPA announced its Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 annual enforcement and compliance results, highlighting site remediation and civil and criminal enforcement results.

Statement

A strong enforcement program is essential to achieving positive health and environmental outcomes. In fiscal year 2017, we focused on expediting site cleanup, deterring noncompliance, and returning facilities to compliance with the law, while respecting the cooperative federalism structure of our nation's environmental laws.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-meets-important-milestone-proposes-fees-rule-final-four-framework-rules-epa-0"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-meets-important-milestone-proposes-fees-rule-final-four-framework-rules-epa-0)]

Release Date: 02/08/2018

EPA met an important milestone and proposed a fees rule under the amended Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), the Frank Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act.

Statement

EPA has moved swiftly to implement the amended TSCA requirements. Our proposed TSCA fees rule ensures we have sufficient resources to review chemicals for safety with the highest scientific standards.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-fy-2019-budget-proposal-released"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-fy-2019-budget-proposal-released)]

Release Date: 02/12/2018

The proposed Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides \$6.146 billion to support the Agency's new FY 2018 – FY 2022 Strategic Plan and mission of protecting human health and the environment.

Statement

EPA's budget proposal provides robust support for our vital programs that pertain to EPA's core missions.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-participates-white-house-infrastructure-initiative-roundtable"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-participates-white-house-infrastructure-initiative-roundtable)]

Release Date: 02/12/2018

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt participated in the White House Infrastructure Initiative Roundtable alongside President Donald Trump, other members of the Cabinet and state and local officials from around the country.

Statement

President Trump's infrastructure plan will revitalize our nation's once-great infrastructure and create a safer and stronger America. Infrastructure includes more than roads and bridges; we will also rebuild our nation's crumbling water infrastructure and clean up contaminated land, both of which are critical to environmental protection and economic growth in our communities. Through regulatory reforms and targeted investments, EPA will play a leading role in this effort.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-scott-pruitt-hosts-nations-leaders-discuss-efforts-reduce-childhood-0"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-scott-pruitt-hosts-nations-leaders-discuss-efforts-reduce-childhood-0)]

Release Date: 02/16/2018

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt hosted fellow Cabinet members and other key senior leaders to outline a federal strategy to reduce childhood lead exposure and associated health risks.

Statement

Lead exposure poses a significant health threat to hundreds of thousands of American children. By refocusing Agency efforts, we can work with our government partners to develop solutions that address lead exposure and improve health outcomes for children.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-participates-energy-roundtable-states-tribes-businesses-and-environmental-groups"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-participates-energy-roundtable-states-tribes-businesses-and-environmental-groups)]

Release Date: 02/28/2018

EPA wrapped up a two-day oil and natural gas roundtable with stakeholders including state and local leaders, tribes, industry, trade groups, and environmental nongovernmental organizations. Co-hosted with the Environmental Council of States (ECOS) and the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC), the roundtable was organized to enhance coordination and communication, and ensure safe and responsible domestic energy production, especially in the oil and gas industry.

Statement

This roundtable fulfills a commitment EPA made last year to improve our working relationship with state regulators and American businesses. EPA is working closely with the states to provide clarity and certainty to oil and gas rules and permitting processes.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-first-two-rules-amend-coal-ash-disposal-regulations-saving-100m-year"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-first-two-rules-amend-coal-ash-disposal-regulations-saving-100m-year)]

Release Date: 03/01/2018

EPA is proposing the first of two rules that will amend the regulations for the disposal of coal combustion residuals, also known as CCR or coal ash, from electric utilities and independent power producers. EPA's Regulatory Impact Assessment shows this proposal, if finalized, will save the utility sector up to \$100 million per year in compliance costs.

Statement

This coal ash proposal embodies EPA's commitment to our state partners by providing them with the ability to incorporate flexibilities into their coal ash permit programs based on the needs of their states. We are also providing clarification and an opportunity for public comment – something that is much-needed following the public reaction to the 2015 coal ash rule.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-takes-action-address-oil-and-gas-compliance-concerns-saving-least-14-million"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-takes-action-address-oil-and-gas-compliance-concerns-saving-least-14-million)]

Release Date: 03/01/2018

EPA is taking steps to address significant and immediate compliance concerns for the oil and natural gas industry, reduce burdens on our state regulatory partners, and save millions of dollars in regulatory compliance costs.

Statement

The technical amendments to the 2016 oil and gas NSPS are meant to alleviate targeted regulatory compliance issues faced by affected sources. While this action addresses an immediate need, it does not deter the ongoing work at the Agency to assess the 2016 rule as a whole, including whether it is prudent or necessary to directly regulate methane.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/federal-partnership-kicks-next-phase-water-quality-challenge"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/federal-partnership-kicks-next-phase-water-quality-challenge)]

Release Date: 03/01/2018

EPA with four federal partners launched the next phase of a technology-accelerating water quality challenge calling for demonstrated use of nutrient pollution sensors.

Statement

Nutrient pollution is a widespread water quality challenge in the United States and is caused by excess nitrogen and phosphorus in the water. By demonstrating there are successful strategies for incorporating nutrient sensors into existing water monitoring and nutrient management efforts, the Challenge can help states and communities overcome the major barriers to measuring and reducing this pollution.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-safe-system-recycling-aerosol-cans-saves-over-3-million-year"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-safe-system-recycling-aerosol-cans-saves-over-3-million-year)]

Release Date: 03/06/2018

EPA is proposing a clear, practical, and safe system for handling hazardous waste of aerosol cans that encourages recycling. EPA estimates it will also save at least \$3 million per year in regulatory costs.

Statement

This proposal increases opportunities for safe recycling of aerosol cans, while also simplifying hazardous waste regulations. We remain committed to protecting human health and the environment, while also providing regulatory certainty to American businesses.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-meets-another-tsca-milestone-releases-draft-strategy-reduce-animal-testing"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-meets-another-tsca-milestone-releases-draft-strategy-reduce-animal-testing)]

Release Date: 03/07/2018

EPA is releasing a draft strategy to reduce the use of vertebrate animals in chemical testing for public comment. This fulfills another milestone the Agency has met under the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, which amended the Toxic Substances Control Act.

Statement

This draft strategy is a first step toward reducing the use of animals and increasing the use of cutting-edge science to ensure chemicals are reviewed for safety with the highest scientific standards. EPA is committed to working with animal welfare groups and other groups to produce a sound, effective plan in line with the law.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-87-million-clean-more-450-school-buses-32-states"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-87-million-clean-more-450-school-buses-32-states)]

Release Date: 03/08/2018

EPA awarded more than \$8.7 million to replace or retrofit 452 older diesel school buses. The funds are going to 141 school bus fleets in 32 states, each of which will receive rebates through EPA's Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) funding. The new and retrofitted buses will reduce pollutants that are linked to health problems such as asthma and lung damage.

Statement

These rebates are an innovative way to improve air quality across the country and provide kids with safe, reliable transportation to and from school. Through the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act, EPA is equipping local school districts with cleaner-running school buses, helping them along the route to healthier kids and communities.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-clarifies-nsr-project-evaluations-removes-obstacles-reducing-pollution"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-clarifies-nsr-project-evaluations-removes-obstacles-reducing-pollution)]

Release Date: 03/13/2018

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt issued a guidance memorandum clarifying the process for evaluating projects under the major New Source Review (NSR) program. The memo streamlines permitting without sacrificing environmental protections, and reduces burdens to develop and expand facilities while encouraging companies to reduce pollution.

Statement

NSR guidance advances President Trump's goal to streamline permitting requirements for manufacturing facilities as well as EPA's efforts to reform the overly complicated and burdensome NSR program.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-signs-technical-corrections-emissions-standards-saving-115-million"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-signs-technical-corrections-emissions-standards-saving-115-million)]

Release Date: 03/20/2018

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt proposed amendments to the Petroleum Refinery Sector Risk and Technology Review and the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS). These technical corrections provide both regulatory clarity for refineries and cost savings up to \$11.5 million.

Statement

These common-sense actions provide regulatory clarity and certainty for refineries across the country. The proposed amendments simplify compliance with national standards, generate significant cost savings, and ultimately enhance protection of human health and the environment.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-broadens-representation-science-advisory-committee-chemicals"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-broadens-representation-science-advisory-committee-chemicals)]

Release Date: 03/22/2018

EPA moved to appoint additional members to the Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals (SACC). This will increase the balance of scientific perspectives and add experts with experience in labor, public interest, animal protection, and chemical manufacturing and processing to the committee. The committee is tasked with providing independent advice on science and technical issues to assist EPA in implementing the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, which amended the Toxic Substances Control Act

Statement

Broader representation on the SACC will work to advance the Agency's efforts to get the most modern and safe chemicals to market quickly in order to provide regulatory certainty for manufacturers and confidence for American consumers.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/grants-awarded-31-college-teams-innovative-technology-projects"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/grants-awarded-31-college-teams-innovative-technology-projects)]

Release Date: 03/22/2018

EPA announced over \$463,000 in funding for 31 Phase I student teams through the People, Prosperity, and the Planet (P3) grants program. These teams, made up of college students from across the country, are developing sustainable technologies to solve current environmental and public health challenges.

Statement

This year's P3 teams are applying their classroom learning to create innovative and practical technologies. This next generation of scientists has demonstrated a commitment to designing sustainable solutions that will help protect public health and the environment and ensure America continues to lead the world in innovation and science for decades to come.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-ghg-emissions-standards-cars-and-light-trucks-should-be"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-ghg-emissions-standards-cars-and-light-trucks-should-be)]

Release Date: 04/02/2018

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt is announcing the completion of the Midterm Evaluation (MTE) process for the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions standards for cars and light trucks for model years 2022-2025, and his final determination that, in light of recent data, the current standards are not appropriate and should be revised.

Statement

Obama's EPA cut the Midterm Evaluation process short with politically charged expediency, made assumptions about the standards that didn't comport with reality, and set the standards too high.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-new-funding-water-infrastructure-projects"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-new-funding-water-infrastructure-projects)]

Release Date: 04/04/2018

EPA announced the availability of funding that could provide as much as \$5.5 billion in loans, which could leverage over \$11 billion in water infrastructure projects through the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program.

Statement

Thanks to the President's leadership, this WIFIA funding will spark new investments to repair our nation's crumbling water infrastructure. EPA will play a key role in the President's infrastructure efforts by incentivizing states, municipalities, and public-private partnerships to protect public health, fix local infrastructure problems, create jobs, and provide clean water to communities.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-254-million-train-and-assist-small-drinking-water-and-wastewater-systems"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-254-million-train-and-assist-small-drinking-water-and-wastewater-systems)]

Release Date: 04/11/2018

EPA is announcing the award of more than \$25 million in grants to help the country's small drinking and wastewater systems and private well owners better protect public health and the environment.

Statement

These grants will fund critical workforce development trainings that will help small systems improve operations and identify when repairs to drinking and wastewater infrastructure are needed in local communities.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-updates-list-superfund-sites-targeted-immediate-intense-action"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-updates-list-superfund-sites-targeted-immediate-intense-action)]

Release Date: 04/16/2018

EPA released an updated Administrator's Emphasis List of Superfund sites. The list represents sites identified by the Regions with concurrence from the Administrator that will benefit from his targeted immediate and intense attention.

Statement

We are making tremendous progress expediting sites through the entire Superfund remediation process. The updated Emphasis List reflects our commitment to addressing Superfund sites as quickly and safely as possible.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-effort-update-wet-weather-regulations-wastewater-treatment-plants"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-effort-update-wet-weather-regulations-wastewater-treatment-plants)]

Release Date: 04/17/2018

EPA will be reaching out to states, local communities, and stakeholders as the Agency begins a new rulemaking process to provide certainty surrounding the use of “blending” by wastewater treatment plants.

Statement

EPA is taking action on a new rule that will give municipalities much-needed clarity on blending at wastewater treatment plants. We look forward to engaging with partners at the state and local levels as we work to design a rule that offers a common-sense approach to protecting public health and safely managing our nation’s wastewater.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-fy17-environmental-justice-progress-report-shows-tangible-results-vulnerable"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-fy17-environmental-justice-progress-report-shows-tangible-results-vulnerable)]

Release Date: 04/19/2018

EPA released its Environmental Justice FY2017 Progress Report highlighting continued accomplishments to creating cleaner, safer, and healthier environments for minority, low-income, tribal, and indigenous communities. In FY2017, EPA delivered tangible results for the nation’s most vulnerable populations.

Statement

EPA is committed to helping the most vulnerable communities create cleaner, safer, and healthier places to live, work, and raise families.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-availability-funding-reduce-emissions-diesel-engines-nationwide"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-availability-funding-reduce-emissions-diesel-engines-nationwide)]

Release Date: 04/24/2018

EPA announced the availability of grant funding to modernize the nation’s diesel fleet by retrofitting or replacing vehicles with cleaner, more efficient diesel engines. EPA anticipates awarding approximately \$40 million in Diesel Emission Reduction Program (DERA) grant funding to eligible applicants, subject to the availability of funds.

Statement

These grants will incentivize improvements to aging diesel fleets and improve air quality throughout the country. EPA will continue to target funds to areas facing significant air quality issues.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-announces-543-million-brownfield-grants-assess-and-clean"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-announces-543-million-brownfield-grants-assess-and-clean)]

Release Date: 04/25/2018

EPA has selected 144 communities for brownfields environmental Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup grants. The 221 grants totaling \$54.3 million will provide communities with funding to assess, clean up and redevelop underutilized properties while protecting public health and the environment.

Statement

EPA’s Brownfields Program expands the ability of communities to recycle vacant and abandoned properties for new, productive reuses, using existing infrastructure. These grants leverage other public and private investments, and improve local economies through property cleanup and redevelopment.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-working-states-and-tribes-takes-next-steps-2015-ozone-designations"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-working-states-and-tribes-takes-next-steps-2015-ozone-designations)]

Release Date: 05/01/2018

EPA is taking the next step in the Clean Air Act process to implement the national air quality standards for ozone that were issued in 2015. After designating most of the United States as meeting the standards in November 2017, the Agency is now completing nearly all remaining area designations. Eight counties in the San Antonio, Texas area will be designated by July 17, 2018.

Statement

Following the data and the law, today's designations reflect continued progress in addressing ground-level ozone and its precursors. EPA will continue to work closely with our state and tribal partners to improve air quality for all Americans.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-seeks-input-study-management-wastewater-oil-and-gas-extraction"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-seeks-input-study-management-wastewater-oil-and-gas-extraction)]

Release Date: 05/02/2018

EPA is embarking on a new study that will take a holistic look at how EPA, states and stakeholders regulate and manage wastewater from the oil and gas industry.

Statement

This study will take into consideration the expertise of states and stakeholders in developing effective options and alternatives to better manage wastewater from the oil and gas sector," said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. "It's important the Agency works cooperatively with local officials and energy providers to protect the environment and provide affordable, reliable energy to the American people.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-selects-17-organizations-receive-3-million-environmental-workforce-development-and"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-selects-17-organizations-receive-3-million-environmental-workforce-development-and)]

Release Date: 05/07/2018

EPA selected 17 organizations to receive a total of \$3.3 million in grants for environmental job training programs. Funded through the agency's Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) Program, these grants will support programs to help local residents learn the skills needed to secure employment in the environmental field.

Statement

Through these Brownfields job training programs, we're investing in getting Americans back to work and improving local economies and the environment. Graduates will acquire the skill set necessary to gain full-time employment in the environmental field and help revitalize their communities.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-action-methylene-chloride"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-action-methylene-chloride)]

Release Date: 05/10/2018

EPA announced upcoming actions on methylene chloride, a chemical that can be used for paint stripping. The Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, which amended the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), requires EPA to perform risk evaluations on the uses of ten specific chemicals including methylene chloride.

Statement

EPA is working diligently to implement the new law get the most modern and safe chemicals to market, and to ensure the safety of existing chemicals.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-signs-memo-reform-national-ambient-air-quality-standards-review"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-signs-memo-reform-national-ambient-air-quality-standards-review)]

Release Date: 05/10/2018

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt signed a memorandum outlining a “Back-to-Basics” process for reviewing National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) under the Clean Air Act. This memo ensures that EPA and its independent science advisors follow a transparent, timely, and efficient process in reviewing and revising public health- and welfare-based NAAQS.

Statement

The principles laid out in this memorandum will reform the process for setting national air quality standards in a manner consistent with cooperative federalism and the rule of law. Getting EPA and its advisors back on track with Clean Air Act requirements, statutory deadlines, and the issuance of timely implementation rules will ensure that we continue the dramatic improvement in air quality across our country.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-announces-new-office-continuous-improvement"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-announces-new-office-continuous-improvement)]

Release Date: 05/14/2018

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt met with more than 75 employees and stakeholders to provide an update on the implementation of the new EPA Lean Management System (ELMS) and announced EPA’s new Office of Continuous Improvement (OCI) and its director, Serena McIlwain.

Statement

Through Lean Management, EPA is tracking, measuring, and improving vital agency processes, such as permitting and meeting legal deadlines on time, for the first time. Establishing the Office of Continuous Improvement will ensure that these actions are implemented throughout the Agency and produce lasting results for years to come.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-extends-deadline-apply-wifia-water-infrastructure-loan"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-extends-deadline-apply-wifia-water-infrastructure-loan)]

Release Date: 05/15/2018

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt announced at a meeting with water sector associations that the deadline to submit letters of interest for Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loans has been extended to July 31, 2018. Administrator Pruitt also sent a letter highlighting the deadline extension to governors of 56 states and territories as well as tribal leadership.

Statement

By extending the deadline to apply for a WIFIA loan, even more entities will be able to bring critical water infrastructure improvements to their communities, including projects that keep lead and other contaminants out of drinking water. These projects create jobs, protect public health, and help ensure that all Americans continue to have access to clean and safe water.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-signs-proposed-risk-management-program-reconsideration-rule"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-signs-proposed-risk-management-program-reconsideration-rule)]

Release Date: 05/17/2018

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt signed the Risk Management Program (RMP) Reconsideration proposed rule to better address potential security risks, improve emergency planning and public information regarding accidents, and save approximately \$88 million a year.

Statement

Accident prevention is a top priority at EPA, and this proposed rule will ensure proper emergency planning and continue the trend of fewer significant accidents involving chemicals. The rule proposes to reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens, address the concerns of stakeholders and emergency responders on the ground, and save Americans roughly \$88 million a year.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/historic-epa-summit-provides-active-engagement-and-actions-address-pfas"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/historic-epa-summit-provides-active-engagement-and-actions-address-pfas)]

Release Date: 05/23/2018

EPA wrapped up a two-day National Leadership Summit on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The leadership summit included representatives from over 40 states, tribes, and territories; 20 federal agencies; Congressional staff; associations; industry groups; and non-governmental organizations.

Statement

The National Leadership Summit on PFAS provided an unprecedented opportunity for stakeholders to share vital information and best practices regarding PFAS challenges across the nation. EPA will utilize the information discussed at the historic summit, along with upcoming visits to affected communities, to develop a National PFAS Management Plan. The Agency will also take concrete actions to ensure PFAS is thoroughly addressed and all Americans have access to clean and safe drinking water.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-takes-three-important-steps-ensure-chemical-safety-under-lautenberg-act-proposes"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-takes-three-important-steps-ensure-chemical-safety-under-lautenberg-act-proposes)]

Release Date: 06/01/2018

EPA is releasing the following for public comment: (1) the first ten problem formulation documents, (2) EPA's systemic review approach document, and (3) a significant new use rule (SNUR) proposal enabling the Agency to prevent new uses of asbestos – the first such action on asbestos ever proposed.

Statement

These actions provide the American people with transparency and an opportunity to comment on how EPA plans to evaluate the ten chemicals undergoing risk evaluation, select studies, and use the best available science to ensure chemicals in the marketplace are safe. At the same time, we are moving forward to take important, unprecedented action on asbestos.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-finalizes-action-promoting-greater-transparency-certain-chemicals-used-cleaners"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-finalizes-action-promoting-greater-transparency-certain-chemicals-used-cleaners)]

Release Date: 06/07/2018

EPA is finalizing a rule to add a category of thirteen specific nonylphenol ethoxylates (NPEs) to the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI). This addition ensures the most up-to-date information is easily accessible to the public.

Statement

EPA is taking an important step to provide communities with additional information about toxic chemicals being released to the environment. By making information about industrial management of toxic chemicals available to the public, community members, researchers, industrial facilities, investors, and government agencies can make more informed decisions that impact human health and the environment.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-157-million-supplemental-funds-cleanups-contaminated-brownfield-sites"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-157-million-supplemental-funds-cleanups-contaminated-brownfield-sites)]

Release Date: 06/07/2018

EPA is announcing approximately \$15.7 million in supplemental funding to communities to assist them in cleaning up contaminated brownfield properties. EPA plans to provide supplemental funding to 33 successful, existing Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) grantees, helping communities carry out cleanup and redevelopment projects.

Statement

These supplemental funds provide communities with the resources they need to continue to clean up contaminated lands, which will improve public health and generate economic growth. These funds will ensure more cleanups are completed and more land can be returned to beneficial reuse.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-proposes-cost-benefit-analysis-reform"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-administrator-pruitt-proposes-cost-benefit-analysis-reform)]

Release Date: 06/07/2018

EPA issued an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) to announce that the Agency is soliciting public input on whether and how to change the way it considers costs and benefits in making regulatory decisions.

Statement

Many have complained that the previous administration inflated the benefits and underestimated the costs of its regulations through questionable cost-benefit analysis. This action is the next step toward providing clarity and real-world accuracy with respect to the impact of the Agency's decisions on the economy and the regulated community.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-and-army-take-next-step-joint-efforts-redefine-waters-united-states"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-and-army-take-next-step-joint-efforts-redefine-waters-united-states)]

Release Date: 06/15/2018

EPA and the Department of the Army (Army) will be sending a proposed “Step 2” rule that would redefine “waters of the United States” (WOTUS) to the Office of Management and Budget for interagency review. The agencies will issue the proposal for public comment after the interagency review process is complete.

Statement

Farmers, ranchers, landowners, and other stakeholders are counting on EPA to listen to their input when it comes to defining ‘waters of the United States. We are taking an important step toward issuing a new WOTUS definition and answering President Trump’s call to ensure that our waters are kept free from pollution, while promoting economic growth, minimizing regulatory uncertainty, and showing due regard for the roles of the federal government and the states under the statutory framework of the Clean Water Act.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-guidance-assist-companies-increase-transparency-and-improve-new-chemicals"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-guidance-assist-companies-increase-transparency-and-improve-new-chemicals)]

Release Date: 06/20/2018

EPA issued guidance to improve transparency with the public and with companies seeking Agency review of their new chemical substances under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The guidance promotes early engagement and communication, and enhances overall understanding of EPA’s technical review and analysis to better move chemicals through the evaluation process.

Statement

Through early engagement with industry and by being clear and specific about what information we require from them in their new chemical submission, we increase manufacturers’ certainty, improve submissions, and get new, safer chemicals on the market faster and more efficiently.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-proposes-rule-provide-regulatory-certainty-spill-prevention"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/administrator-pruitt-proposes-rule-provide-regulatory-certainty-spill-prevention)]

Release Date: 06/21/2018

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt signed a proposed rule that, if finalized, would impose no new regulatory requirements under the Clean Water Act (CWA) section 311(j)(1)(C) authority for CWA hazardous substances discharges prevention. EPA is proposing to conclude that additional regulatory requirements for CWA hazardous substances are unnecessary and would impose undue burden on approximately 100,000 facilities in the U.S. already subject to the existing framework.

Statement

After engaging the public and analyzing the best available data, EPA believes that additional regulatory requirements for hazardous substances discharges would be duplicative and unnecessary. If finalized, the proposed rule would give the regulated community the clarity and certainty they need to continue to uphold the law and ensure the nation's waterways are protected.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-celebrates-new-chemical-safety-milestones-2nd-anniversary-lautenberg-chemical"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-celebrates-new-chemical-safety-milestones-2nd-anniversary-lautenberg-chemical)]

Release Date: 06/22/2018

On the two-year anniversary of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act), EPA announced that it has met its statutory responsibilities to release guidance and policy on confidential business information, a strategy to reduce animal testing, and a final mercury reporting rule.

Statement

At this two-year milestone, EPA is proud to say that the Agency is delivering results and meeting the statutory responsibilities and deadlines of the new law. These actions will boost transparency and increase public confidence in chemical safety.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-strengthening-dust-lead-hazard-standards-reduce-exposures-children"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-strengthening-dust-lead-hazard-standards-reduce-exposures-children)]

Release Date: 06/22/2018

EPA released a proposal to lower the dust-lead hazard standards for public comment. The new proposed standards for lead in dust for floors and window sills will be an important step to reduce lead exposure.

Statement

Reducing childhood lead exposure is a top priority for EPA. Lead-contaminated dust from chipped and peeling lead-based paint is one of the most common causes of elevated blood lead levels in children. Strengthening the standards for lead in dust is an important component of EPA's strategy to curtail childhood lead exposure.

[[HYPERLINK "https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-biofuel-requirements-2019-track-meet-congressional-deadline"](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-proposes-biofuel-requirements-2019-track-meet-congressional-deadline)]

Release Date: 06/26/2018

Administrator Scott Pruitt issued a proposed rule under the Renewable Fuel Standards (RFS) program that would set the minimum amount of renewable fuels that must be supplied to the market in calendar year 2019, as well as the biomass based diesel volume standard for calendar year 2020.

Statement

I've traveled to numerous states and heard firsthand about the importance of the RFS to farmers and local communities across the country. Issuing the proposed rule on time meets Congress's statutory deadlines, which the previous administration failed to do, and provides regulatory certainty to all impacted stakeholders.